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July-Aug 1988

MONTANA '89er

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
MONTANA CENTENNIAL COMMISSION AND OFFICE

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CAPITAL CITY TO HOST GALA BIRTHDAY PARTY

November 8, 1989

Montana Historical Society

Montanans dedicated their Capitol on July 4, 1902, thirteen years after statehood began.

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On November 8, 1889, Montanans received word by telegram that their Territory had been admitted to the Union. The moment marked the first day of our first century of statehood.

Plans are under way to mark that historic occasion—and to begin the first day of our second century of statehood—with a celebration to be shared by everyone in the state.

The November 8, 1989, event in Helena will focus on the structure that belongs to all Montanans, the neoclassical, domed Capitol. Begun ten years after statehood and completed three years later, the Capitol symbolized the emergence of citizens' rights to control their own destiny and to legislate their own concerns into public policy.

Plans include re-enactments of historical events, the burial of a time capsule, flyovers of military aircraft, a parade, and a Centennial Ball. Bells will ring throughout the state, organized by KRTV in Great Falls.

"Past, present, and future will be represented during the big day in November 1989," said Lt. Governor Gordon McOmber, Chairman of the Centennial Commission, "as Montanans celebrate their state's present vitality and great promise for the future."

The President of the United States will be invited, as well as former Senator Mike Mansfield, currently U.S. Ambassador to Japan. They will be joined by Montana's Governor and past governors, current and past congressional delegates, state officials, legislators, and other dignitaries, including representatives from every Montana county.

All Montanans are invited to come to Helena to be part of this gala celebration. Those who come will have the opportunity to enjoy the numerous events hosted by the Capital City '89ers, the Centennial Office's official affiliate in Helena. Those who cannot come to Helena will be able to participate through a statewide telecast of the events in the capital and through Centennial Day programs planned in their own communities.

On November 8, 1988, Governor Ted Schwinden will proclaim the official beginning of the Centennial year and the start of an extraordinary calendar of programs from border to border. Centennial Day in Helena twelve months later will be a grand and fitting finale to this year-long celebration of our first century of statehood. ❑

VOL.3 NO. 4 JULY/AUGUST 1988

PLEASE RETURN

Community Affiliates: Partners in the Celebration

In less than five months, on November 8, Governor Ted Scwhinden will mark the beginning of Montana's Centennial year by reading a proclamation at the State Capitol in Helena. The occasion will be the first day of the last year of Montana's first century of statehood.

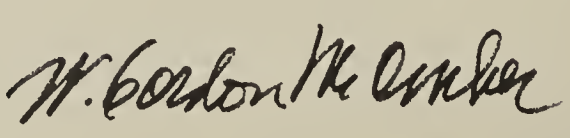
As the beginning of the Centennial year draws near, I am encouraged by the number of groups around our state that have signed up as official affiliates of the State Centennial Office. In the past few months, the list of affiliates has grown from seven to 31.* In June, we accelerated our effort to involve at least one partner organization in every county.

These groups join us in what promises to be a memorable year in Montana for residents and visitors alike. The calendar of official Centennial events to date, many of them organized by local affiliates, is indeed impressive (see page 4), and it is growing daily.

The legislature created the Centennial Commission and Office to encourage citizen participation and to coordinate activities throughout the state. Our goal is to encourage involvement by all 800,000 Montanans.

If you need assistance of any kind, I urge you to call the Centennial Office (444-1989). If you would like someone to help in your area, let us know and I'll do my best to be there or send someone if I can't make it.

Community affiliates are listed on page 7.



LT. GOVERNOR GORDON MCOMBER
·CHAIRMAN, CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

Affiliate Assistance Conference Planned

Centennial committees in all parts of Montana will receive planning assistance from the Centennial Office and Commission at a special conference on September 24 at the Heritage Inn in Great Falls.

The gathering is designed to encourage local programs and coordinate preparations for the 1989 celebration.

Part of the expenses of at least one representative from each community affiliate will be underwritten. These affiliates are the official liaisons of the state office and the key organizers of local and regional programs.

"The conference will give everyone a chance to learn more about who is planning what, how their organizing ideas can inspire others, and what our office can do to assist the efforts of all those involved in the Centennial," said Tom Daubert, Centennial Director.

The conference will include networking sessions and workshops presented by experienced organizers. Sponsors of local events, vendors of sanctioned products, and others interested in Centennial planning will also be invited to attend.

The Cascade County '89ers will co-host the conference.

Conference details will be available in the coming weeks. Or, call or write the Centennial Office, PO Box 1989, Capital Station, Helena 59620 (444-1989).

Beef Council Offers Grant to Organizers

In recognition of the state's 100th birthday, the Montana Beef Council will award a $5,000 grant to the group or organization with the proposal which best emphasizes the theme of Montana beef promotion in its Centennial celebration.

Applicants for the grant must be from Montana and organized as a nonprofit group. Proposals should contain a narrative summary of the program (maximum two pages), a detailed budget, the names, addresses, and affiliation of the people involved, and the name and full description of the organization. Groups may apply for all or part of the $5,000.

Proposals must be submitted to the Montana Beef Council by January 1, 1989. The Council will make its final decision at its February 1989 meeting.

For information, write or call the Montana Beef Council, PO Box 1679, Helena 59624 (442-3420).

MONTANA CENTENNIAL COMMISSION & OFFICE

COMMISSION

Lt. Gov. Gordon McOmber, *Chairman*
Patricia DeVries, *Polson*
Nancy Y. Dumont, *Wolf Point*
Marilyn Frazier, *Great Falls*
Frank Haswell, *Helena*
James Haughey, *Billings*
David Johns, *Butte*
Robert Kelly, *Missoula*
Wilbur Werner, *Cut Bank*

DIRECTOR
Tom Daubert

Barbara Faas, *Clerk*
Barb Harris, *Administrative Assistant*
Ellen Meloy, *Publications*
David Nelson, *Director, Montana Arts Council; Consultant to the Centennial*
Dot Walther, *Licensing/Sanctioning*
Bill Yaeger, *Executive Assistant to the Lt. Governor*

The bimonthly *Eighty-Niner* presents news and views in celebration of the 100th anniversary of Montana's statehood in 1989. For information, call 444-1989.

P.O. BOX 1989, CAPITOL STATION, HELENA, MT 59620

Using artifacts such as these Native American dolls, "Montana Homeland" will describe Montana's past from prehistoric times to the present. (Photo by Helen Alten, Montana Historical Society)

"MONTANA HOMELAND" EXHIBIT: A LASTING LEGACY

"Montana Homeland," the new Montana history exhibit at the Montana Historical Society in Helena, opens on September 16-18. This exhibit is one of the Centennial's most significant lasting legacy projects.

Several thousand artifacts from the Society's collection will tell the story of people and places from the end of the last ice age to the present. The exhibit has been three years in the making, including the conservation of artifacts, the design of interpretive gallery spaces that involve the viewer to a greater degree, and the development of educational resources for schools.

For information, call the Society at 444-2694.

CENTENNIAL YOUTH EXCHANGE

In school year 1988-89, young Montanans will have the chance to see how "the other half" lives during the Centennial Ambassador Youth Exchange Program, sponsored by the Centennial Office and Meadow Gold Dairies of Montana.

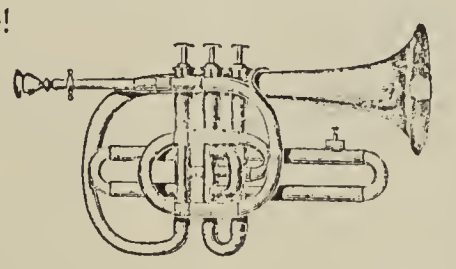
Two juniors from every high school in eastern Montana will spend two weeks living and attending schools in western Montana, and vice versa. High schools select their own exchange students, based on the students' abilities to speak about their hometown history and culture. Host families will accommodate the students, and all transportation costs will be paid by Meadow Gold. The students will select a spokesperson to deliver a speech at the Capitol ceremonies on November 8, 1989.

For information, contact the Centennial Office (444-1989).

This newsletter was produced with the assistance of Montana's ten Apple dealers.

AD AGENCY TO PROMOTE CENTENNIAL

Exclamation Point Advertising of Billings has been awarded a contract for an all-media, public service advertising campaign promoting the Montana Centennial. The agency, which came on board in May, will help the state office convey the message loud and clear: Montana is a great state to celebrate!



PRODUCTS ON SALE AND ON DISPLAY

More and more vendors of official Centennial products are marketing their wares directly or through retailers. Since some of the proceeds from these fine products help pay for the 1989 celebration, these businesses deserve your support.

If you're in Helena this summer, stop by the east wing of the Capitol to see the handsome display of Centennial products. They will affirm your faith in the high quality of Montana businesses.

Small-Town Montana is Centennial Country

Often the more grandiose components of historical celebrations overshadow the smaller events—the activities that bring even a handful of people together.

Gatherings in Montana's smaller towns are as important as the balls, bashes, and extravaganzas. Many of these towns will in some way be celebrating the local traditions that make them unique—and they will be having a lot of fun as well.

Utica's "Recalling Memories," Ringling's Reunion '89, and events in Huntley Project, Circle, Victor, and other towns are among rural Montana's Centennial activities. (More are listed on the calendar on pages 4-5.)

Whether it is your extended family or a group of friends or neighbors, no group is too small to celebrate this important occasion.

Montana Historical Society

Meade Hotel, Bannack, built in 1875

Centennial Sites

If you have a home, farm, ranch, business, mine, or school built between 1864 and 1889, you have a candidate for the Centennial Sites program, an inventory of the places "where statehood began." For a nomination form, contact the Centennial Office, PO Box 1989, Helena 59620, or the State Historic Preservation Office, 225 N. Roberts, Helena 59620. Nominations are due by October 1, 1988.

MONTANA CENTENNIA

This calendar lists events sanctioned (signed licenses) thus far by the State Centennial Commission. Although the Centennial Office tries to keep as current as possible, sponsors are responsible for notifying us of changes. A more detailed calendar is updated monthly and is available from the Centennial Office. *All events listed here were current as of June 20, 1988.*

1988

All summer--*Capitol Lawn Floral Display*, Helena, Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Aug. 6--*100th Anniversary Celebration of Original Governor's Mansion*, Helena

Sept. 16-18--*Grand Opening of "Montana Homeland," Montana History Exhibit*, Montana Historical Society, Helena

Sept. 24--*Centennial Community Affiliate Conference*, Great Falls

Oct. 8 through 1989 season--*Billings Symphony* presents music by Montana composers

November--*Veterans Art Exhibit, Old-Time Style Show*, Miles City

Nov. 3-5--*Montana History Conference*--Livingston

Nov. 8--*Admission Day*: Governor Schwinden proclaims start of Centennial year

Nov. 11--*Veterans Day Centennial Ball*, Miles City

Nov. 12-13--*Centennial Year Opening Ceremonies*, Stevensville

Nov. 26--*Martha Graham Dance Theater*, Alberta Bair Theater, Billings

December--*Capitol Rotunda Christmas Tree*, decorations by Legislative Spouses

1989

All Year

The Nature Conservancy natural preserve project
Montana Community Foundation, resources for community development
Mining Town Photography Exhibit, Denes G. Istvanfy
Montana Bluebird Trail
"Paul Bunyan" Towboat Restoration, Polson
Daly Mansion Historic Site, Hamilton
Chinook Opera House Restoration, Chinook '89ers
Helena Community Cultural Center, Helena Film Society (renovation of old Lewis & Clark County jail)
McCone County Museum, Circle, community projects, McCone Co. '89ers

Upper Missouri River transportation, 1865

Lewistown Historic Preservation Office, presentation on stonemasonry in area
Montana Minutes, Montana history radio vignettes
Peace Park & Garden Trail from N. Dakota through Glacier Natl. Park to Washington.
Northwest Centennial Composition Contest for musical work by Northwest composer.

January

Jan.-Feb.--*Sled Dog Races*, Helena

Jan.-Oct.--*Montana Energy Education Council Student Calendar*, statewide contest

February

Centennial Musical Folk Opera tour, Opera Workshop of Western Montana

Feb. 10-11--*Fractured Follies Celebration*, Glendive Community Hospital Auxillary

Feb. 12-19--*Ski for Light International Week*, Bozeman, Sons of Norway

Spring

Ghost Town Ballet Tour, statewide tour, Montana Ballet Company
5th Annual Calligraphy Workshop and Exhibit, Helena, Big Sky Scribes
The Shape of Montana, Haynes Fine Arts Gallery, MSU, Bozeman
Smith Mine Memorial Grove Dedication, Red Lodge

March

Women's History Lecture Series, Montana Historical Society, Helena

March 4--*Winter Carnival*, Red Lodge Grizzly Peak

March 12-18--*Western States J1 Championships*, Red Lodge Grizzly Peak

March 16-18--*21st Annual C. M. Russell Art Auction*, Great Falls, C. M. Russell Museum benefit

March 23-24--*Montana Regional Special Olympics Winter Games*, Red Lodge Grizzly Peak

March 30-April 1--*Masters and Citizen Races*, Red Lodge Grizzly Peak

April

Chili Cook-Off, Miles City, Miles City Roundup '89

April 1--*Dedication of new wing*, Museum of the Rockies, Bozeman.

April 6-June 25--*Centennial Quilt Exhibition*, Montana Historical Society, Helena

April 28--*Bitterroot Valley Centennial School Day*, Bitterroot Centennial Organization

May

The William A. Clark Collection, Yellowstone Art Center, Billings
A Salute to Women, YWCA banquet, Helena

May 1-29--*Montana Wildlife Art Show*, MonDak Heritage Center, Sidney

May 6--*The Spokane Memorial Horse Race*, Helena

May 14--*Cowboy Poetry & Range Ballads*, Custer County Art Center, Miles City

May 19-21--*Miles City Bucking Horse Sale*

May 19-21--*Garden City Ballet*, Missoula

May 26-29--*State Square & Round Dance Festival*, Great Falls

Summer

Summer at the Society, Montana Historical Society, Helena
Bitterroot Valley History Pageant, Bitterroot Valley Historical Society
The Voyage of "The Centennial Messenger," horseback/canoe journey from Wyoming to St. Louis. A Northwest Centennial event.
Capitol Lawn Floral Display, Helena, Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks

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All photos courtesy of the Montana Historical Society

CALENDAR 1988-1989

West Yellowstone Flyfishing Expo, West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce

Rocky Mountain Outfitters Rendezvous, Townsend, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association

Tri-State Transpandle Triathlon, Montana, Idaho, Washington

JUNE

Lewis & Clark Run Across Montana, relay from Wibaux to Lolo Pass.

June 2-3--*Governor's Centennial Cup* foot races, Helena

June 2-Aug. 5--*The Black Robe Mission Project*, horseback journey tracing early routes of Jesuit missionaries in Montana

June 12-July 4--*Bannack to Helena '89: The Centennial Wagon Train*, Montana Draft Horse & Mule Association

June 15 - July 15--*Montana Places Art Show*, MonDak Heritage Center, Sidney

June 22-24--*The Centennial Symposium*, Billings. Northwest Centennial humanities conference

June 22-25--*Montana Traditional Jazz Festival*, Helena

June 23-25--*Centennial Celebration Days*, Fort Benton.

June 24--*Montana Statehood Centennial Airshow of Bozeman*

June 24-25--*Beartooth Days*, Red Lodge

June 30-July 2--*Montana Chamber Centennial Golf Classic*, Bigfork

June 30-July 5--*Daly Days: A Festival of the Arts*, Hamilton

June 30-July 4--*Nez Perce Trail Ride*, Chinook, Chinook '89ers

JULY

Big Sky State Games, statewide sports festival

Hot Air Balloon Exhibit--Miles City, Miles City Roundup '89

July 1--*Recalling Memories*, Utica community celebration

July 1-9--*Can-Can Revival*, Red Lodge

July 1-9--*Montana Centennial Rendezvous*, Red Lodge, Beartooth '89ers

July 2-4--*Old Time Fourth of July*, Helena, Capital City '89ers

July 2-9--*Centennial Week in Chinook*, Chinook '89ers

July 3-4--*Harlowton Rodeo*, Harlowton Centennial Committee

July 4--*Dedication of "The Explorers at the Portage,"* Great Falls.

July 7-9--*Chief Victor Days*, Victor

July 7-9--*Wild Horse Stampede & Parade*, Wolf Point

July 15-16--*Homesteader Days*, Huntley Project

July 15-16--*Bannack Days*, Bannack State Park

July 15-16--*Hellgate Rendezvous*, Missoula

July 15-August 15--*Montana People Art Show*, MonDak Heritage Center, Sidney

July 21-23--*Cottonwood Ranch Arts & Crafts Festival*, Roberts, Beartooth '89ers

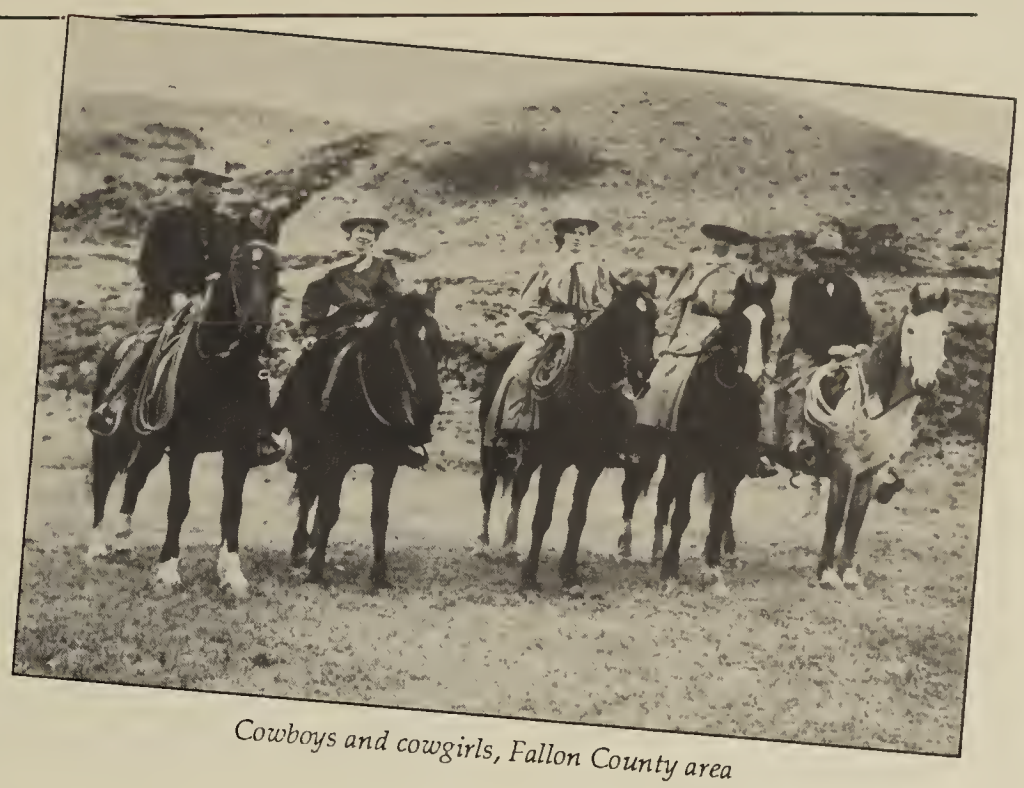
July 22--*The Montana Centennial Parade*, Great Falls, Cascade Co. '89ers

July 22-29--*Centennial Focus Week*, Great Falls, Cascade County '89ers

July 23-August 5--*Centennial Ride Across Montana*, bicycle ride from Yaak to Alzada

July 25--*Senior Citizens Celebration*, Great Falls

July 25--*Old Time Fiddlers Festival*, Great Falls



Cowboys and cowgirls, Fallon County area

July 29-Aug. 6--*Centennial Derby*, thoroughbred race at State Fair, Great Falls

AUGUST

Montana State Centennial Airshow of Helena

41 Trees Planted in Hardin, Montana as 41st state

Eastern Montana Fair, Miles City

Aug. 1-Nov. 8--*Centennial Memory*, TV spots of Montana history, Visual Dynamics

Aug. 3-6--*Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation* national meeting, Bozeman

Aug. 3-6--*Sweet Grass County High School Reunion*, Big Timber

Aug 5--*Ringling Reunion '89*, Ringling

August 5-13--*Red Lodge Festival of Nations*

SEPTEMBER

Miles Community College Anniversary, Cattle Drive, Rodeo, Miles City, Miles City '89ers

Sept. 4-9--*Great Montana Centennial Cattle Drive*, Roundup to Billings, Latigo Corp.

Sept. 8-10--*Centennial Golf Tournament*, Bigfork

Sept. 9--*Town & Country Day, Circle*, McCone Co. '89ers

Sept. 15-17--*Libby Nordicfest*, Libby

Sept. 16-17--*Old Timers Rodeo*, Great Falls

OCTOBER

The William A. Clark Collection, Montana Historical Society, Helena

Harvest Festival, Miles City, Miles City '89ers

NOVEMBER

Nov. 8--*Admission Day* (Montana's 100th Birthday)

Gala Birthday Celebration, Helena, statewide participation; coordinated by Capitol City '89ers and State Centennial Office

Bellringing, statewide, organized by KRTV, Great Falls

DECEMBER

Capitol Rotunda Christmas Tree, decorations by Legislative Spouses

National Christmas Tree, Washington, D.C. Tree from Kootenai Natl. Forest near Libby

Railroads Lay Foundations of Statehood Economies

by Richard Roeder

The decade of the 1880s was Montana's period of greatest growth, a growth which warranted the award of statehood in 1889 and laid the foundations of Montana's economy. By contrast, the 1870s were years of frustrating economic stagnation. Both decades saw significant transitions largely attributable to the coming of two railroads in particular and their linking of Montana resources to the nation's markets.

In the 1870s, resources lay everywhere at hand but could not be developed without adequate transportation. River transportation on the Missouri was seasonal and could carry goods only as far as Fort Benton. Overland freighting was difficult, slow, and costly. Obviously, railroad transportation was the key to future development.

Completion in 1869 of the nation's first transcontinental railroad, the Union Pacific-Central Pacific, gave Montana better connections with Utah over the Corinne-Virginia City Road. Although an improvement, the connection was not a satisfactory substitute for a rail service of Montana's own. Two possibilities arose: a line northward from the Union Pacific along the Corinne-Virginia City Road, and the completion of the Northern Pacific, chartered in 1864 as a transcontinental line.

Put within market reach by the railroads, woolgrowing enjoyed astounding growth in the 1880s as one of Montana's earliest industries. Above, a herd on the banks of the Powder River at the turn of the century. (Photo courtesy of the Montana Historical Society, L.A. Huffman Collection)

Although construction of the Utah and Northern, as it was now called, began in 1871, work did not proceed in earnest until 1878. The line reached Montana's border in 1880, and the first train arrived in Butte a year later. Construction of the Northern Pacific, stalled by the Panic of 1873, resumed in 1879, and by 1881 crews were at work in the Yellowstone Valley and along the Clark Fork River west of the Continental Divide. Northern Pacific officials celebrated the completion of the line at Gold Creek on September 8, 1883.

The railroads transformed the mining industry. By the mid-1870s, it was clear that Montana's immediate mining future lay with silver. While local entrepreneurs had made some progress in mining and processing silver ores, rail transportation put the ore bodies within reach of reduction works and smelters, and the industry boomed. In 1880 Montana produced only seven percent of the nation's silver. Three years later, it was the number two producer, and during several years of the peak (1881-1893) it was number one.

Railroads also made possible the beginnings of a copper industry. The state's first successful copper smelter, the Colorado and Montana Smelting Company, began operation in 1879. Marcus Daly, who brought together the investors who formed the Anaconda Silver Mining Company in 1881, began construction of a smelter on Warm Springs Creek in 1883. None of the operations would have profited without transportation links to major markets.

Agriculture, too, was boosted by the railroads. Closer railheads and newly-opened range land created a cattle and sheep boom. While the disastrous winter of 1886-87 momentarily deflated the boom, closing down many individual operators, the livestock industry as a whole recovered rapidly. In 1880 Montana's ranges held slightly more than 160,000 cattle. By 1890 the number had increased to more than 667,000. The rise in the number of sheep was even more impressive. In 1880 about 184,000 woolies roamed Montana's ranges. Ten years later the number had jumped to over 1.8 million.

The 1880s also witnessed a significant expansion of general farming. In 1880 Montana had 1,519 farms. Ten years later there were 5,603. During the same decade the number of dairy cows increased from 11,000 to more than 24,000. Wheat production declined slightly during the 1880s, but production of oats, so vital in an age of horsepower, rocketed from about 900,000 to more than 1.5 million bushels.

Clearly by the mid-1880s, Montana's economy had grown and diversified to a point where statehood could be sought with a new seriousness. ❑

Although Mr. Roeder has left the Centennial Office staff to pursue work as a private consultant, we are grateful to him for continuing to contribute this statehood history series.

Get Involved: Contact Your Local Committee

The Centennial Commission has sanctioned the following communities as official partners in the 1989 celebration. Contact these affiliates for information on how you can participate in local events.

Bitterroot Centennial Org.
102 Geneva
Hamilton, MT 59840

Cascade County '89ers
PO Box 2127
Great Falls, MT 59403

Yellowstone '89ers
PO Box 1891
Billings, MT 59103

Bozeman Centennial Comm.
PO Box 1188
Bozeman, MT 59715

Pondera Co. Centennial Committee
Box 145
Brady, MT 59416

Beartooth '89ers
PO Box 1989
Red Lodge, MT 59068

Virginia City Chamber Centennial Committee
Box 367
Virginia City, MT 59755

McCone County '89ers
Circle, MT 59215-0321

Montana's Centennial Roundup '89ers
PO Box 1989
Roundup, MT 59072

Garfield Co. Centennial Club
PO Box 446
Jordan, MT 59337

Cottonwood '89ers
510 Main
Deer Lodge, MT 59722

Harlowton Chamber Centennial Committee
Box 41
Harlowton, MT 59036

Treasure Co. '89ers
PO Box 324
Hysham, MT 59038

East Helena Centennial Committee
PO Box 766
East Helena, MT 59635

Wibaux Co. Centennial Committee
Route 1
Wibaux, MT 59353

Miles City Roundup '89
Miles City C. of C.
901 Main
Miles City, MT 59301

Gardiner '89ers
Box 26
Gardiner, MT 59030

Chinook Centennial '89ers
Box 428
Chinook, MT 59523

Missoula Centennial Committee
PO Box 20123
Missoula, MT 59801

Capital City '89ers
201 E. Lyndale
Helena, MT 59601

Gallatin Co. Cent. Comm.
317 W. Main St.
Bozeman, MT 59715

Butte-Silver Bow '89ers
1315 W. Park
Butte, MT 59701

Wolf Point C. of C.
PO Box 237
Wolf Point, MT 59201

Toole Co. Centennial Comm.
PO Box 222
Sweetgrass, MT 59484

Terry Centennial Comm.
Box 6
Terry, MT 59349

MonDak '89ers
PO Box 1590
Sidney, MT 59270

Hardin Area C. of C.
204 N. Center Ave.
Hardin, MT 59034

Fairview Annual Old Timers
Box 341
Fairview, MT 59221

Fergus Co. '89ers
Box 799
Lewistown, MT 59457

Mission Valley '89ers
Box 398
Polson, MT 59860

Glendive Chamber '89ers
Box 930
Glendive, MT 59330

Centennial Flag Ready to Fly

Montana now has an official Centennial flag, soon to be flown over buildings around the state as a symbol of our 100th-birthday pride. The flag shows the official Centennial logo in full color (blue, gold, and copper) on a white background, framed by broad blue borders.

Gary Pfister of Cut Bank has been licensed to market the flag. It is available in full as well as desktop sizes: 4 by 6 feet, 3 by 5 feet, 12 by 18 inches, and 4 by 6 inches.

Schools, libraries, hospitals, businesses, individuals, and others are encouraged to display the Centennial flag throughout the year or to use it in special ceremonies marking the 1989 celebration.

For information, contact Gary Pfister, 337 First Ave. SE, Cut Bank 59427.

Gov. Ted Scwhinden (left) and Lt. Gov. Gordon McOmber with the official Centennial flag.

Catch the Excitement with Centennial Plates

Over 18 months ago, each Montana county began to sell the official Centennial license plates—the gold, copper, blue, and white rectangles that tell the world, "Montanans are in a great state to celebrate."

As of May, 27,833 Centennial plates had been sold--about four percent of all plates issued

The Centennial plates are a proclamation of our 100th anniversary, as well as a collector's item. This special edition will never be issued again. Proceeds from the sales of the plates help support the 1989 celebration.

If you haven't put Centennial plates on your vehicle, it's time to join the birthday party. The plates cost $19.89, plus a county handling fee. They are available at your county treasurer's office.

Give an inch!

Personalized deeds signifying an interest in "The Last of What is Best in America" are now available. Make a symbolic investment in the Headwaters, Homestead or Bannack Acre. Each deed "officially" entitles the holder to the "general enjoyment of the riches of the Treasure State." Great gifts for family and friends, the deeds at $10 each are a perfect way to help Montana prepare for her 100th birthday as a state in 1989.

Order from:
The Centennial Store
P.O. Box 1989
Capitol Station
Helena, MT 59620

MONTANA
Centennial Acre

Montana Statehood Centennial Office
P.O. Box 1989, Capitol Station
Helena, MT 59620

MONTANA Centennial 1889-1989 ™